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(54) An ink supply port arrangement for a multi-colour ink cartridge

(57) An ink cartridge 1 has a plurality of ink chambers 2a-2f wherein ink supply ports 4a-4f associated with the chambers are arranged in two linear arrays, such that the size of the cartridge can be reduced, and easy loading of the cartridge is ensured. The ink supply ports may be arranged in a zig-zag, offset manner to allow for a further reduction in the size of the chambers and cartridge. At least one reinforcing rib (15, Fig.5(a)) is provided on the outside of the cartridge, to ensure the strength and rigidity of the cartridge. Circuitous grooves (35a-35f, Fig.8(b)) are formed in the surface of a cover member (30) so that the grooves (35a-35c) communicating with ink chambers (12a-12c, Fig.8(a)) having smaller volumes are longer than grooves (35d-35f) communicating with chambers (12d-12f) having larger volumes, thus insuring uniform viscosities of all of the inks.

FIG.1 (a)

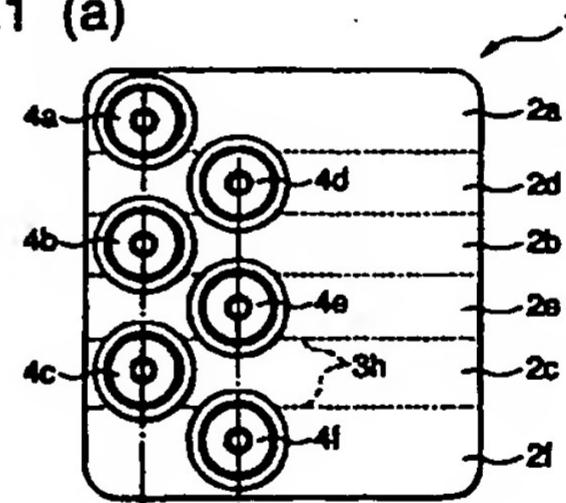
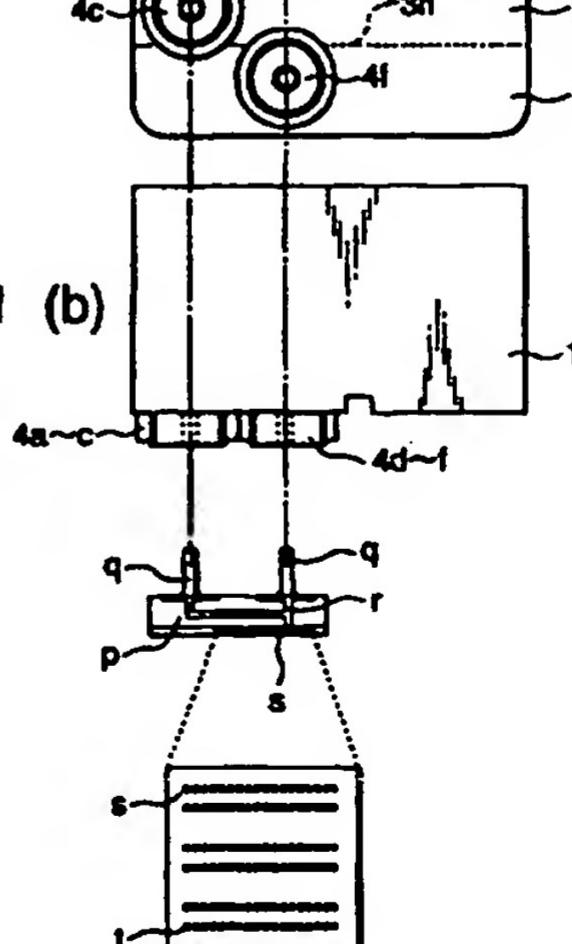


FIG.1 (b)



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